REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Applicant: MATSUMOTO, et al.

Examiner: Wilson, Lee D.

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Re: Amendment after Final Rejection

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AMENDMENT ATER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

 $\int P.O. Box 1450$

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the final Office Action mailed on August 2, 2006, a response to which was due initially no later than November 2, 2006 without requesting an extension of time. The Applicant submits an amendment and reply pursuant to 37 CF.R. §§ 1.114 and 1.116.

Please amend the above-identified application as described below and consider the following remarks. All remarks and amendments herein are made without prejudice.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.